

Letters to the editor; How the race was won, Oct. 9 Optometrists' tunnel vision victimizes patients, Oct. 9 Dow urges U.S. to follow Canada's low-carbon plans, Oct. 7 The riches of gratitude, Oct. 10

The Toronto Star

October 14, 2021 Thursday

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Section: EDITORIAL; Pg. A14

Length: 637 words

Body

Election result clearly doesn't reflect the will of the people

How the race was won, Oct. 9

The intricate series of events described by Althia Raj to explain how Trudeau won the election is extremely revealing.

However it passes over the most important feature, which is related to voter numbers.

In addition to demonstrating superior tactics, Trudeau won because, despite polling fewer votes than his main rival, he was able to win over significantly more seats.

I doubt this is possible in any other world democracy.

I don't know what the answer is, but you don't have to be a rocket scientist to know that the result does not reflect the will of the people.

Robert Dixon, Ajax

Optometrists are certainly

not the villain of this piece

Optometrists' tunnel vision victimizes patients, Oct. 9

Martin Regg Cohn attempts to make Ontario's optometrists look like villains and the Ontario government like a poor victim caught between a rock (its own OHIP legislation) and a hard place (the optometrists).

The province could easily alter the rules so that, for the duration of this dispute, optometrists' services would no longer be eligible services under OHIP, as is the case every day in many provinces.

Then, all patients would be free to obtain care from optometrists and optometrists would be free to offer care pro bono whenever that seems appropriate.

It is the government, not the optometrists, holding citizens hostage. The government holds most of the cards in this poker game, and deserves to pay for its adolescent attitude.

Patrick Cowan, North York

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Tripling ethylene production capacity is bad for our planet

Dow urges U.S. to follow Canada's low-carbon plans, Oct. 7

Celebrating Dow's new "net zero" ethane cracker plant as an environmental win is greenwashing at its finest.

Firstly, Dow's net zero target does not include Scope 3 carbon emissions - these are emissions linked to operations both upstream and downstream - which can easily account for 65 per cent to 95 per cent of the plant's carbon footprint.

Secondly, investing billions of dollars into new natural gas infrastructure during a climate emergency is not helping lessen our dependence on fossil fuels.

It's using buzzwords to try to appease the millions of Canadians calling for climate action.

Tripling the plant's ethylene production capacity is pushing us into the plastic future we are trying to move away from.

It's dangerous, disingenuous and a head-in-the-sand venture.

We should not celebrate this investment; we should call it out and demand Dow does better.

Sarah Doyle, Mississauga

My Thanksgiving was blessed by the kindness of strangers

The riches of gratitude, Oct. 10

For the first time in many months, a friend of mine visited me and we celebrated her birthday and Thanksgiving together. Her husband died recently and I hope I was able to comfort her in some small way.

It was almost impossible to buy a turkey breast this year. For two people, a whole turkey would be out of the question. So, I visited three Metro stores and there were no turkey breasts to be found.

So I went to the Metro at Bayview and York Mills. Again, no turkey breasts. I did speak to a very pleasant young woman in the poultry section and she told me she had just one turkey breast, bone in, in the back.

On my way to check out, another very nice young woman let me go in front of her to check out. I only had the turkey to purchase, and I use a walker.

To my dismay, I realized I'd left my wallet at home and had grabbed my handbag which did not contain any money or credit cards.

I was horrified, but the young customer actually paid for my turkey and would not let me give her a cheque for the cost of the bird.

I was overwhelmed by her kindness and I hope she is reading this.

There is such kindness in this city and my Thanksgiving is even more special this year.

Vera Keogh, Scarborough.

Classification

Language: ENGLISH

Letters to the editor; How the race was won, Oct. 9 Optometrists' tunnel vision victimizes patients, Oct. 9 Dow urges U.S. to follow Canada's low-carbon plans,

Publication-Type: Newspaper

Journal Code: TTA

Subject: OPTOMETRY (93%); CAMPAIGNS & ELECTIONS (90%); LETTERS & COMMENTS (90%); CLIMATE ACTION (89%); EDITORIALS & OPINIONS (89%); EMISSIONS (89%); MANUFACTURING OUTPUT (86%); DEMOCRACIES (79%); REPORTS, REVIEWS & SECTIONS (79%); ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT (74%); NEGATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS (67%); THANKSGIVING (67%); GREENHOUSE GASES (66%); POKER (64%); GREENWASHING (62%)

Industry: OPTOMETRY (93%); CHEMICALS (89%); EMISSIONS (89%); ETHYLENE (86%); MANUFACTURING OUTPUT (86%); NATURAL GAS (86%); PETROCHEMICAL MFG (86%); PETROLEUM & COAL PRODUCTS MFG (86%); ETHANE (68%); OIL & GAS FACILITIES (68%); ENERGY & UTILITIES (67%); POKER (64%); GREENWASHING (62%); FOSSIL FUELS (60%); NATURAL GAS PRODUCTS (60%)

Geographic: ONTARIO, CANADA (73%); CANADA (93%); UNITED STATES (92%)

Load-Date: October 14, 2021

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